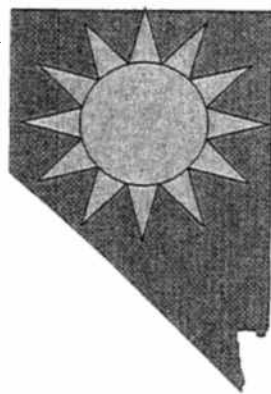


John W. James, State Climatologist
 University of Nevada, Reno
 322 Mackay Science Hall/154
 Reno, Nevada 89557-0118



Telephone (775) 784-1723
 E-mail nclimate@scs.unr.edu
 Fax (775) 784-1058

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STATE PUBLICATIONS

NEVADA CLIMATE SUMMARY

October 1999
 Volume 16, Number 10

The big weather news for October comes in two parts – the record warmth of Fall in the West and the very large diurnal temperature spreads in most Northeast Valleys. With 102 years of record Reno has had the warmest early Fall yet measured, as September averaged 5.2 degrees above normal (4th on the list) and October +5.4 degrees (the 5th warmest October). The two together are the warmest 9th and 10th months ever recorded at Reno.

Cool mornings and warm afternoons are the usual in most of Nevada's mountain valleys where temperature inversions are a regular feature of dry, calm, valley bottoms where intense shallow inversions are found in the mornings. Fall, Summer and Spring daytime heating rapidly warms the valleys so that cold mornings are quickly replaced by warm to hot afternoons. Nevada's record for this is a 75 degree spread from 12° to 87° on September 21, 1954 at Deeth. This is also the USA record for temperature change caused only by daily local cooling and heating. Extremes during October 1999 came close to the September 1954 record, as the temperature at 7am, October 20th at Charleston was -2° rising to 70° in just seven hours at 2pm for a 72 degree difference in just a few hours. Several other locations in the Northeast had 60-67 diurnal changes this October. For example, San Jacinto rose from 9°-76° and Boies Ranch 8°-75° on the 20th.

In summary, October was drier than usual Statewide with temperatures above normal in the west and south, but below normal in parts of the north. Evaporation was above normal. Minden observer, Ted Hendricks kept his pan measurements going through October 31st, the latest such occurrence, even though he had to break pan ice some mornings in order to do this.

John W. James

State Climatologist

STORAGE GAGE INDEX

<u>Storage</u> <u>Gage #</u>	<u>Elevation</u>	<u>Location*</u>	<u>1960-91</u> <u>Averages</u>	<u>1996-97</u> <u>Precip.</u>	<u>1997-98</u> <u>Precip.</u>	<u>1998-99</u> <u>Precip.</u>
1	8400	Coon Creek Summit	34.32"	40.97"	29.30"	25.27"
2	7400	Pratt Creek	17.55	---	20.95	17.00
3	6700	Hanks Creek	10.28	---	7.70	---
4	6200	Beaver Creek	13.54	13.35	9.90	14.15
5	7725	Jacks Creek Pass	32.00	34.70	37.80	24.27
6	6900	California Creek	12.89	14.25	16.60	11.25
7	6250	Willow Creek Summit	12.88	10.60	17.85	16.10
8	6545	Adobe Summit	14.62	16.70	17.40	14.65
9	8000	Angel Lake	35.27	55.80	47.00	42.42
10	7200	Soldier Creek	17.43	21.00	---	---
11	7500	Rattlesnake Creek	22.43	24.75	31.59	26.90
12	7300	Harrison Pass	16.78	---	---	23.25
13	6033	White Horse Pass	8.43	12.50	12.50	15.77
14	5690	Sadler Ranch	8.90	11.40	15.75	8.85
15	6200	+Limerick Pass	12.60	---	---	10.75
16	8150	Shelbourne Pass	13.49	17.60	---	---
17	6740	Overland Pass #2	12.69	18.95	20.85	---
18	7630	Robinson Summit	12.56	15.10	20.90	17.20
19	7320	Connors Pass	13.87	15.05	11.75	17.80
20	9950	+Wheeler Camp (GBNP)	26.67	21.68	---	---
21	7400	+Little Antelope Summit	13.80	12.40	21.59	17.66
22	8500	Charnac Basin	12.58	12.35	19.30	16.25
23	6750	Kingston Creek	15.24	12.50	23.15	16.60
26	7900	+Leviathon Aspen Grove	21.20	26.75	20.50	19.50
29	6820	Currant Creek Summit	12.37	15.80	17.80	13.30
30	7100	Wilson Creek Pass	16.14	13.80	25.05	20.20
31	3250	Bunkerville Mountain	6.28	4.20	10.00	5.95
32	3777	McCullough Pass	6.23	3.20	12.40	6.90
34	7685	Wheeler Pass	14.45	12.40	31.95	15.40
35	8400	Lee Canyon	22.35	22.55	28.75	22.00
36	9050	Adams Ranch	20.13	15.30	31.90	12.50
37	4000	Spring Mountain Ranch	10.90	7.05	20.00	10.40
38	7500	Kyle Canyon	19.90	22.10	36.25	19.60
39	6000	Upper Williams Ranch	14.39	12.45	---	16.50
40	6000	Roberts Ranch	13.72	13.60	26.50	25.00
42	7520	+Carroll Summit	17.70	13.45	---	18.90
43	7350	+Risue Summit	13.50	17.25	15.75	15.75
44	8100	+Lucky Boy Pass	13.01	14.40	16.63	11.75
46	7000	+Lebo Spring Summit	15.72	17.50	22.00	18.50
52	7600	+Hinkey Summit	---	38.85	42.55	35.00
54	8000	+Pete's Summit	---	12.90	19.52	15.98
55	7300	+Scott's Summit	---	18.50	23.20	18.90
64	7150	+Sweetwater Summit	---	16.25	16.75	13.00

+ State Climatology Office (Others are State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources – Elko, Carson City and Las Vegas).

* For locations gage numbers are keyed to the Nevada Climate Map.